



2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

October 27, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrators, Body Piercing Facilities

FROM: Dennis Gibbs, Director
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: First Aid Training

There have been inquiries regarding providers of first aid training to body piercing technicians and compliance to the standards pertaining to this training. Section 103.E.1.b.(3) of Regulation 61-109, *Standards for Permitting Body Piercing Facilities*, requires that "Prior to applying to the Department for a permit, a proposed facility shall: b. Ensure that all technicians comply with all applicable federal OSHA requirement or guidelines, and obtain certificates attesting to the successful completion of courses in: (3) American Red Cross First Aid;" and Section 502.A.2. requires "American Red Cross First Aid certification (required for each technician every three years)" for "all technicians prior to client contact."

If the scope and content of a first aid training course is equivalent to that offered by the American Red Cross, training from that source (as evidenced by certificate) which is approved by the Department, will meet the intent of the standards and is acceptable in lieu of American Red Cross First Aid Training. Currently, only the American Heart Association First Aid Training has been approved as an equivalent to the American Red Cross First Aid Training.

If there are any questions, please call Rob Lawyer at (803) 545-4234, or should there be questions concerning first aid course approval, please call Dr. Linda Bell at (803) 898-0798.

DLG/JML

cc: Linda Bell, M.D., DHEC Bureau of Disease Control
George Moore
Robert Lawyer, RN